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AFRL awards contract for remote sensing research

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate has awarded a \$1,982,859 contract to Raytheon Co. of El Segundo, Calif., for research in the development of low-power remote sensors.

The 30-month contract, "Power Aware Remote Information Sensing," is funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) of Arlington, Va., under its Power Aware Computing and Communication program.

"This contract was awarded under Phase II of the DARPA program," said Wilmar W. Sifre, program manager in the directorate's Information Technology Division. "Raytheon engineers will be building on technology developed under Phase I and implementing some of this technology into a distributed sensor network."

The Power Aware Computing and Communications program

seeks the intelligent management of energy and energy distribution to provide the minimum power required to complete a mission or task. It seeks to place the importance of power on the level with overall system performance. Military applications and platforms have an urgent and growing need for power efficient computing and communications. More power efficient systems would allow platforms to perform new missions and enable dramatically extended mission timelines. It could also enable new capabilities on existing missions and reduce logistics costs by requiring fewer energy resources and less frequent replenishment cycles.

"The Raytheon research will specifically focus on hardware and software technologies to reduce the power requirements for remote sensors," said Sifre. @